

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ol. No.

: 09/973,862

(pplicant

: Kelly G. AMMANN et al.

Filed

: October 11, 2001

TC/A.U.

: 1634

Examiner

: Frank Wei Min LU

Docket No.

: 2599-104-D4

Customer No.

: 6449

Confirmation No.

: 8811

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MS - DD

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith information that the Office may wish to consider in examination of the subject application. Materials submitted for consideration are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. A copy of the European Search Report is also enclosed.

I hereby certify that items 1, 2, 3, and 8 contained in this information disclosure statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

I hereby certify that none of the remaining items of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry. none of the remaining items of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement, therefore no fee is being submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted

By

Richard Wydeven

Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 39,881

ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, p.c.

Suite 800, 1425 K Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20005 Telephone: (202)783-6040

December 21, 2005 Date:

Enclosures:

Cited Foreign Reference (1)

European Search Report

2599-104-D4-2nd.IDS.wpd

				Complete if Known			
				Application Number	09/973,862		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Filing Date	October 11, 2001		
PTO/SB/08				First Named Inventor	Kelly G. AMMANN		
				Group Art Unit	1634		
DEC 2.1. 2005 BE				Examiner Name	Frank Wei Min LU		
				Attorney Docket Number	2599-104-D4		
				Customer No.	6449		
Sheet	1	of	2	Confirmation No.	8811		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Cite No.1		U.S. Patent Do	cument	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of Publication
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	of Cited Document	of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
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	2	5,240,678		Litsche, et al.	08-31-1993
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.

							Complete if Known					
						A	pplication Number	09/973,862				
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PTO/SB/08						Fi	rst Named Inventor	Kelly G. AMMANN 1634				
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Examiner Cite Initials* No.1		Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind ⁵ Code (if know					Name of Patentee or Applicant of C		Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	T		
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Examiner Signature Date

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